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[NOTE.—**An astorisk as the commencement of a speach indicates revision by the Member·]**

II. CALLING ATTENTION TO NEED FOR REMISSION OF LAND REVENUE AND POSTPONEMENT OF COLLECTION OF AGRICULTURAL LOANS IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS.

திரு. எம். டி. தியாகராஜ பிள்ளை : கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, சில பகுதிகளில் பருவ மழை தவறியதனாலும், இதர சில பகுதிகளில் பஞ்ச நிலைமைகள் நிலவுவதனாலும், வேறு சில பகுதிகளில் பெருமழையின் காரணமாகப் பயிர்கள் சேதமுற்றதனாலும், இம் மாநிலத்திலுள்ள பல மாவட்டங்களிலிருக்கும் விவசாயிகளிடமிருந்து வசூலிக்கும் நில வரியைத் தள்ளுபடி செய்யவேண்டிய அவசியத்தைப் பற்றியும், நிலவரி நிலுவையையும், நிலவரியின் மீது கூடுதல் தீர்வையையும், விவசாயக் கடன் தவணைகளையும் அவர்களிடமிருந்து வசூலிப்பதை ஒத்திவைக்க வேண்டியது அவசியம். தஞ்சை ஜில்லா சுற்றுப்பிரயாணத்தின்போது முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் கூட அதற்கு ஒத்துக் கொண்டார்கள். ஆகவே இதைக் கவனித்து வேண்டிய உதவிகள் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன். 9.00 a.m.

திரு ஆ. துரையரசன் : கனம் சட்டமன்றத் தலைவர் அவர்களே, சில பகுதிகளில் பருவ மழை தவறியதனாலும், இதர சில பகுதிகளில் பஞ்ச நிலைமைகள் நிலவுவதனாலும், வேறு சில பகுதிகளில் பெருமழையின் காரணமாகப் பயிர்கள் சேதமுற்றதனாலும், இம் மாநிலத்திலுள்ள பல மாவட்டங்களிலிருக்கும் விவசாயிகளிடமிருந்து வசூலிக்கும் நில வரியைத் தள்ளுபடி செய்யவேண்டிய அவசியத்தைப்பற்றியும், நிலவரிநிலுவையையும், நிலவரியின்மீது கூடுதல் தீர்வையையும், விவசாயக் கடன் தவணைகளையும் அவர்களிடமிருந்து வசூலிப்பதை ஒத்திவைக்க வேண்டிய அவசியத்தை கனம் பொதுப் பணித் துறை அமைச்சர் அவர்களின் கவனத்திற்கு கொண்டு வருகிறேன்.

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a gist of the seasonal conditions prevailing in the various districts of the State is given below :—

Salem district.—Only a few tanks in Dharmapuri and Karimangalam firkas of Dharmapuri taluk did not receive adequate water-supply and action has been taken already for granting the seasonal remission admissible to the ayacutdars under the tanks in the above two firkas. Except for the short supply received in the few irrigation tanks referred to, the general seasonal conditions in Dharmapuri taluk were good during 1963. Hence there is no need to grant remission of land revenue or to postpone the collection of loans in this fasli year in the District as a whole.

Tirunelveli district.—The crops in Alangulam village in Tenkasi Taluk and Chintamani and Thirumalapuram village in Sankarankoil Taluk, are not in good condition, and they require further rains for maturity. However, there was no total failure of monsoon during the fasli and seasonal conditions were fairly

good. Most of the tanks in this district have got water which will last even after the harvest of the pishanam crops. Even in the village where the crops are not in good conditions, the question of postponement of collection does not arise, as the collections have already been made in the villages.

Tiruchirappalli district.—Due to late rains, the yield of dry crops has been affected slightly in Perambalaur taluk, but there was no total failure of crops in this taluk. Hence there is no need for the postponement of collections of land revenue and loans.

Ramanathapuram district.—In this district, the North East monsoon commenced late by a month this year. It was less than in normal years and not adequate to raise a successful crop. This has greatly hit the ryots who raised seedlings as usual but found them to be far too mature for transplantation. Adverse seasonal conditions are now prevailing only in the main taluks of Tirupattur, Sivaganga and the sub-taluks of Devakottai, Karaikudi and Manamadurai. The total extent of wet lands in these taluks is 65.164.54 acres and the extent cultivated with wet crop is 54, 568.50 acres. Out of this extent cultivated, an out-turn of less than 2 annas is estimated in an extent of 29,455-12 acres and an out-turn between 2 to 4 annas in an extent of 9,980.23 acres. The Collector of Ramanathapuram has submitted proposals for the grant of seasonal and full remission of wet assessment upto and inclusive of an outturn of 4 annas in Tirupattur and Sivaganga main taluk and Manamadurai, Karaikudi and Devakottai sub-taluks, and also seasonal remission under B.S.O. 13 (2 annas outturn and less) for eligible cases in six villages of Kamuthi sub-taluk. These proposals are under the consideration of the Government.

Madurai district.—Periyar is the main source of irrigation in Madurai district, with a registered ayacut of 1,43,000 acres in Madurai, Periakulam, Nilakottai and Melur taluks. During fasli 1373, there was unusual failure of rains in the Periyar catchment area during the South-west monsoon. This has resulted in late cultivation of crops. Further, the ayacut lands situated in Vaigai canal schemes in Melur taluk received supply of water only in December 1963 which also resulted in the late cultivation of crops in some villages in Melur taluk. But, in general, in Madurai and Melur taluks, there was no widespread failure of crops calling for any special relief. In Madurai taluk, against the total wet ayacut of about 61,000 acres, the extent eligible for remission is only about 2,483 acres. In the Melur taluk as against the total ayacut of about 59,000 acres, the extent affected was only 4,971 acres. In Usilampatti sub-taluk area, an extent of 1,444.19 acres of wet lands has been left waste and the crops raised in 405.25 acres are reported to have failed. The failure

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of wet crops in this taluk was not on an extensive scale, but only of local significance, restricted to 52 villages out of 282 villages of this taluk in Tirumangalam, Pannikundu, Usilampatti and Valandur firkas. The collector of Madurai has taken timely action to grant remission to the affected fields. No famine conditions are prevailing in Ramanathapuram and Madurai districts as reported by the Members.

Thanjavur district.—During October 1963; there were cyclonic winds. Betelvine gardens and plantain crops were affected in some parts of the district. There were no damages to standing paddy crops then. But due to the heavy rains in December 1963, an extent of 77,775 acres came under submersion. The stagnant rain water was completely drained subsequently. The Collector of Thanjavur has issued instructions to his subordinate officers to azemish the fields and render remission accounts for sanction by the R.D.Os. concerned. It is considered that the outturn of the crop in the affected area does not warrant any postponement of collection of arrears. There is no levy of any surcharge on land revenue now as stated by the Members. The Member obviously refers to the levy of additional assessment and additional water cess under Act 8 of 1963. If remission of land revenue or water cess payable in respect of the lands affected by floods is granted, there will automatically be remission of additional assessment and additional water cess under section 11 of the Madras Additional Assessment and Additional Water Cess Act, 1963, and consequently, these additional levies will not come up for collection in respect of such lands. There have been damages to crops in Blocks of Madukkur and Pattukottai as a result of heavy rains and floods in October 1963. Consequently, an extent of about 430 acres in 10 villages of Pattukottai taluk will come up for remission. The general conditions are otherwise satisfactory in Pattukottai taluk. Hence the question of granting wholesale remission does not arise in Pattukottai taluk. Though the tanks in Aranthangi taluk received full supply, the yield has not been as good as last year in some areas of this taluk except in one village where the crops have totally failed requiring remission. There is no case for wholesale remission in other parts of the taluk. There has been no attachment of plough bulls or foodgrains by the Revenue officials of Pattukottai taluk. The Madras Additional Assessment and Additional Water-cess Act, 1963 (Madras Act No. 8 of 1963) was published in the Fort St. George Gazette on the 9th May 1963. Under section 1 (2) of the Act the provisions of the Act shall be deemed to have come into force with retrospective effect from 1st July 1963. Under the Act, the land revenue assessment payable per acre has been enhanced by 45 per cent in respect of wet lands under I and II class irrigation sources, and by 30 per cent in respect of wet lands under III and V class irrigation sources, subject to the

ceiling fixed in the Act. Similarly, the water cess payable per acre has been increased by 75 per cent in respect of dry lands irrigated by I and II class sources, while the corresponding increase in respect of dry lands, fed by II and V class irrigation sources is 37½ per cent, subject to the ceiling fixed in the Act. The Rules framed under the Act, viz. The Madras Additional Assessment and Additional Water Cess rules 1963, were published in *Fort St. George Gazette* on 1—1—1964. Though the Act was published as early as May 1963 it could be effectively implemented only from January 1964 when Rules were framed under the Act were published. The Rules were however given retrospective effect from 1st July 1962 the date on which the provisions of the Act were brought into force.

The Rules provide for the fixation of the additional assessment after issuing a notice to the assessee and after hearing the objections, if any. The assessee may appeal to the prescribed authority against the orders of assessing authority fixing the additional assessment. Before preferring an appeal, the additional assessment admitted to be due by the appellant should be paid. The anticipated revenue under the Act 8 of 1963 is Rs. 1 crore per annum approximately. In December 1963 in order to mobilise the resources of the State and to collect the additional revenue accruing under this Act as expeditiously and as smoothly as possible, the Government instructed the Collectors to complete all the preliminary work connected with the fixation of the demand under Additional Assessment and Additional Water cess for faslis 1372 and 1373 so that the amounts could be speedily realised as soon as the necessary rules under the Act are finalised. The Collectors have taken action accordingly. In order to facilitate the work of Collectors, the Government have also permitted the Collectors, to have the Forms I, II and III appended to the rules locally printed instead of at the Government press which would have taken some time. Thus, the steps taken by Government were with the intention of fixing the new demands under the new Act as expeditiously as possible, so that the ryots should be saved from unnecessary difficulties resultant on delay and also to obviate the possibility of burdening the ryots by the issue of demands at a time when they are not in a position to pay. It is presumed that the preliminary work is completed in most of the districts and now that the rules have been finalised and published the issue of formal notices to the assessees under the rules would be under way.

The Government are not aware of any collections having been made in contravention of the provisions of the Act and rules framed thereunder. It is likely that during the preliminary work at the village level, a good number of ryots would have paid the additional assessment and additional water cess voluntarily.

There has been no failure of crops due to the failure of monsoon in the other districts of the State. I may therefore inform the House that the district authorities are taking all possible steps to grant remission to the extent permissible to the affected ryots in areas where there has been partial failure of monsoon resulting in failure of crops under some tanks.

III.— GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS PLACES OF PUBLIC RESORT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1964.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, on behalf of the Hon. Minister for Health, I move—

" That leave be granted for the introduction of the Madras Places of Public Resort (Amendment) Bill, 1964."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is—

" That leave be granted for the introduction of the Madras Places of Public Resort (Amendment) Bill, 1964."

The motion was put and carried and leave was granted.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : The Bill is introduced.

(2) THE TIRUCHIRAPPALLI KAIAERUVARAM AND MATTUVARAM (EXTENSION OF APPLICATION) BILL, 1964 (L.A. BILL NO. 7 OF 1964).

THE HON SRI V. RAMAIAH : Sir, I move—

" That the Tiruchirappalli Kaiaeruvaram and Mattuvaram (Extension of Application) Bill, 1964 (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1964) [a] be taken into consideration."

The Tiruchirappalli Kaieuvaram and Mattuvaram Act, 1958 (Madras Act XXXVI of 1958) came into force on 1st April 1959 and it extends to the villages in Tiruchirappalli district specified in the Schedule to the Act. Long after the Act was brought into force, it was brought to the notice of the Government that the peculiar kinds of relationship in respect of land called kaiaeruvaram and mattuvaram were prevalent also in three other villages of Kulithalai taluk, Tiruchirappalli district, viz., Renganathapuram, Mayanoor and Manavasi. It has been suggested that the said villages may be included in the Schedule to Madras Act XXXVI of 1958 so as to afford protection to the Kaiaeruvaramdars and Mattuvaramdars of those villages.

Nearly five years have elapsed since Madras Act XXXVI of 1958 came into force. During this period, there might have been changes in the Kaiaeruvaramdars and Mattuvaramdars in respect of

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[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* Extraordinary, dated 10th March 1964.